

5 August 1965

**The Honorable W. Averell Harriman
Ambassador at Large
The Department of State
Washington, D. C.**

Dear Averell:

Though you probably don't remember the occasion, you were the first non-CIA speaker to participate in an Agency Training Program. This was shortly after I was called back to Active Duty and assigned to CIA by Rodell Smith as the first Director of Training. The year was 1951 and the place was the old Recreation and Services Building Auditorium in Potomac Park. President Harry Truman took your place at the next scheduled course.

I am retiring at the end of this year as Director of Training -- 15 years in the same job is enough. I just don't have the same vitality and energy that you do! The Executive Development Course to which you have spoken before, beginning in September, will be my "sunning" after 15 years. I would regard it as a personal favor to me as well as to the Agency if you would be the final speaker on this Program. Nothing could be more fitting than to have you be the honored speaker at my last effort for the Agency in as much as you were the honored speaker at my first effort.

The date we would prefer to have you is Friday morning, October 22nd. But if this time is inconvenient, we would be happy to have you on the afternoon of Monday, the 11th of October, on Friday, the 15th of October or Thursday, the 21st of October.

If you can possibly do this, Admiral Raborn will, of course, send you a formal and fitting invitation. Would you be good enough to have your secretary give me an informal answer by telephone. My office number is

My love to Marie and sincere congratulations to you on your recent, highly successful trip abroad.

Sincerely,

**MATTHEW BAIRD
Director of Training**

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